

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th January 1874.*

No. 435. Read the following letter from Surgeon W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 10th November 1873, No. 1,798:—

THE Collector of the Coimbatore District has addressed me on the subject of the water level of the tanks close to the town of Coimbatore, and I have the honour to forward his letter herewith for your consideration.

2. The long tank (Valancolum) is of very little use as a reservoir of water, while the maintenance of a high level in it interferes very much with the drainage of the lower portion of the town, and if the calingulahs could be reduced in height and arrangements made to retain the water in the upper tank at its present level as suggested by the Collector, I have no doubt that the measure would be a beneficial one in regard to the health of the town.

3. Efforts have been made to reclaim a portion of the bed of the long tank, but while the water level is maintained as at present, the reclaimed grounds are swampy, and may become a source of danger to the public health.

4. I have to suggest that the District Engineer be called upon to report on the feasibility of the Collector's suggestions.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to Surgeon W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, dated Coimbatore, 29th October 1873, No. 261.

As you have so recently inspected and are so well acquainted with the town of Coimbatore, I have only to bring to your notice a present insanitary condition, which a slight remedy will at once remove, with the view that Government may be addressed on the subject.

2. The chief reservoir for irrigation is the Periacolum, and next to it is a long channel-like tank, called Valancolum, which being dammed at the lower end by a calingulah, to which shutters are attached, throws back a head of water which overspreads a considerable amount of ground close to the Trichinopoly road; the submersion of this land takes place several times a year, and there is the consequently repeated evaporation therefrom.

3. As the Valancolum tank is but little better than a long channel with some waterspread on the upper or unenclosed side, its value as a reservoir is not great; but, as it is in immediate connection with the upper tank at the time of high water, it would not do to lower the calingulah without some provision for the maintenance of the full water supply.

4. This might be easily arranged by having a sluice with shutters on the tunnel by which the waters of the two tanks join. All that is wanted is to give a foot less head of water to the lower tank.

5. It is obvious that when by the raising of the Valancolum Calingulah the water of the lower tank stands some 100 yards up the Municipal drains, that an error has been committed in raising the water level.

6. To prevent any waste, however, of storage space in the upper tank, which by a recent*
* NOTE.—The enlargement of the south calingulah admits of a greater head of water being maintained in the upper tank. Department Public Works improvement has been rather increased, the dividing sluice with shutters would effect all the requirement.

7. The sluices under the Valancolum bund would then be fed by a running channel of water, instead of by a marshy and shallow lake.

8. It is obvious when there is an actual surface ooze arising from some of the lower parts of the town that drainage has ceased, and that the water level has been reached.

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9. Embankments can lessen the waterspread, but cannot alter the water level, and the state of the town drainage at present gives me anxiety for the future health of the town.

10. I consider that with the raising of the Valancolum Calingulah, the waterspread of even the upper tank, the levels being of course equal, has been increased, and that water for irrigation should not be kept at a higher level to the serious risk of health. A letter from the Civil Surgeon on the subject is enclosed.

From C. J. ROGERS, Esq., Civil Surgeon, Coimbatore, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Municipality, Coimbatore; dated Coimbatore, 27th October 1873.

With reference to your proposal to drain the ground adjoining the road leading to the Roman Catholic Chapel, and the drain on the roadside of the Railway Station, I would state that, in my opinion, the result of such drainage is likely to materially improve the health of the town, and at the same time will reclaim the recreation ground of the station. At present there is an offensive effluvium from this spot on each subsidence of the water which occasionally covers this locality.

No. 436. ORDER THEREON, 30th January 1874, No. 221.

IRRIGATION, No. 45.

THESE papers will be communicated to the District Engineer of Coimbatore for the submission of a report on the circumstances of the tanks referred to. The report should be illustrated by such plans and levels as may be necessary to a clear understanding of the proposals of the Collector so far as they affect the irrigation under these tanks; and Colonel Bean will also report what the cost of carrying out the improvements will be, and whether the Municipality will provide the funds, as it is observed that the modified arrangements proposed are to be made in the interests of the Municipality.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint-Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Coimbatore.
Sanitary Commissioner.
Public Department.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.



No. 798

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER, R3

Madras, 10th November 1873.

From

The Sanitary Commissioner

for Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government
Pub. Works Department
Fort Saint George.

Enclosure

Sir, The Collector of the Coimbatore district has addressed me on the subject of the water level of the tanks close to the town of Coimbatore, and I have the honor to forward his letter herewith for your consideration.

2. The long tank (Valancolum) is of very little use as a reservoir of water, while the maintenance of a high level in it interferes very much with the drainage of the lower portion of the town, and if the Calingulah could be reduced in height and arrangements made to retain the water in the upper tank at its present level, as suggested by the Collector, I have no doubt that the measure would be a beneficial one in regard to the health of the town.

3. Efforts have been made to reclaim a portion of the bed of the long tank, but while the water level is maintained as at present, the reclaimed grounds are swampy.

No 261.
 Coimbatore Collectors Office.
 29 October 1873.
 From A. Wedderburn Esquire,
 Collector of Coimbatore
 To Surgeon W. R. Forbush F.R.C.S.
 Sanitary Commissioner
 Madras.

Sir,
 As you have so recently inspected
 and are so well acquainted with the town
 of Coimbatore, I have only to bring to your
 notice a present insanitary condition,
 which a slight remedy will at once remove,
 with the view that Government may be
 addressed on the subject.

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 long channel like tank, called Talanco-
 lum, which being dammed at the lower
 end by a falingula, to which shutters

P. R. 1873. Madras.
 From J. H. Forbush Esq.
 No 8149.

The Sanitary Commissioner

for Madras.

To The Secretary to Govt
 Public Works Dept.
 Dated 10
 Despatched
 Received } Nov: 1873.

No 798
 Enclosures 2.

No 221. 30 Dec 1873.

of enclosing letter

from Collector of Coimbatore on
 the subject of the water level of
 tanks close to Coimbatore, and
 suggesting that the district
 Engineer be called upon to report
 on feasibility of Colr's suggestion

for Madras.
 Sanitary Commissioner
 W. R. Forbush F.R.C.S.
 from most obedient servant

and may become a source of danger to the public health.
 I have to suggest that the district Engineer be
 called upon to report on the feasibility of the Collector's
 suggestion. I have the honor to be

No 435
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 From J. H. Forbush Esq.
 No 8149.

are attached, throws back a head of water, which overspreads a considerable amount of ground, close to the Trichinopoly road, the submersion of this land takes place several times a year, and there is the consequently repeated evaporation therefrom.

3. As the Talancolum tank is but little better than a long channel with some waterspread, on the upper, or ~~an~~ enclosed side, its value as a reservoir is not great; but as it is in immediate connection with the upper tank at the time of high water, it would not do to lower the falingula, without some provision for the maintenance of the full water supply.

4. This might be easily arranged by having a sluice with shutters on the tunnel by which the waters of the two tanks join. All that is wanted is

to give a foot less head of water to the lower tank. —

5. — It is obvious that when by the raising of the Talancolum falingula, the water of the lower tank stands some 100 yards up the Municipal drains, that an error has been committed in raising the water level. —

6 To prevent any waste, however, of storage space, in the upper tank, which by a recent ^{*}note. — The enlargement of the South falingula admits of a greater head of water being maintained in the upper tank. — D. P. W. improvement has been rather increased. The dividing sluice with shutters would effect all the requirement. —

7 The sluices under the Talancolum bund would then be fed by a running channel of water, instead of by a marshy and shallow lake. —

8. It is obvious, when there is an

actual surface ooze arising from some of the lower parts of the town, that drainage has ceased, and that the water level has been reached. —

9. Embankments can lessen the water spread, but cannot alter the water level, and the state of the Town drainage, at present, gives me anxiety for the future health of the town. —

10. I consider that with the raising of the Tatanacolum falingula, the water spread of even the upper tank, the levels being of course equal, has been increased, and that water for irrigation should not be kept at a higher level to the serious risk of health. — A letter from the Civil Surgeon on the subject is enclosed. —

894
I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedient servant,

Alfred W. W.
Collector.

Municipal
Bye-laws
25-10-73.

No.

Coimbatore 27th Oct. 1873.

To A. Widdrham Esq.
President of the Municipality
Coimbatore

Sir

With reference to your proposal to
drain the grounds adjoining the road leading
to the Roman Catholic Chapel, & the
drain on the roadside of the Railway
Station, I would state that in my
opinion the result of such drainage is
likely to materially improve the health of
the Town, & at the same time will reclaim
the recreation grounds of the station. At
present there is an offensive effluvia from
this spot on each subsidence of the water
which occasionally covers the locality.

I am the more to be

Sir
Yr most obed^t Serv^t
J. P. Rogers
Civil Surgeon

1873.
The Collector

The Municipal
Commissioner

The Municipal

The Municipal

The Municipal

The Municipal

P. M. H. 1738. 261.

Drainage & notice
the two sides of
the main stream of the
bank near the tower
of Coimbatore
the raising of
Calcutta, and
the raising of the
bank near the tower

R. 13

No 221 Mad
 Pro of the Madras Govt
 Read the following
 From the Sanitary Commissioner
 Madras (H.R. No 1798 of 10 Nov 73).

Enclosed please
 find the report of the
 Collector, dated 29th
 October 1873 & 26th
 Nov 73.

These papers will be com-
 municated to the District
 Engineer of Coimbatore for the
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 circumstances of the Tanks re-
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Bean

Beau will also report what
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arrangements proposed are to
be made in the interests of the
Municipality.

W. 24/11/73

G.M.

No. 6149

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The District Engineer
Mysore

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 2

G. O. 30th Aug 73 No. 221.

Nos. 40574, 36

Sinks in Mysore.

Piping orders on letter
from the Sanitary Com-
missioner on the subject
of the sinks near Mysore.